IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Leon BOTTOU et al. : Attorney Ref.: 112817-CON-2

Serial No.: 10/721,863 : Art Unit: 2624

Filed: November 26, 2003 : Examiner: Wenpeng Chen

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FOR: COMPRESSION OF PARTIALLY MASKED IMAGE DATA

RULE 312 AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP: Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to payment of the issue fee, kindly enter the following amendment and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.